Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUSSEL 00091 041514Z

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ACTION CU-04

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FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2158

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS DUSSELDORF 0091

BONN FOR USIS

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SCUL GW

SUBJ: FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE: DREIST-GROUP

1. THIS CONSULATE GENERAL HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY OFFICERS OF THE DEUTSCHE VERKEHRSWACHT E.V. DUSSELDORF (A PRIVATE ORGANIZA-TION DEVOTED TO THE IMPOVEMENT OF ROAD TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AND REGULATIONS AND WHICH IS OFTEN RELIED UPON BY CITY AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES FOR ADVICE AND RECOMMENDATIONS) WITH A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR PLANNED VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES APRIL 27 TO MAY 11, 1974. THE GROUP WILL CONSIST OF SEVEN MEMBERS. HEREWITH THEIR NAMES AND TITLES: 1. KURT DREIST, CHAIRMAN OF THE VERKEHRSWACHT; 2. DR. HANS BENDA, LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE DUSSELDORF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMPANY; 3. HEINZ HEYER, ENGINEER; 4. DR. PAUL HILLAND, MANAGER OF THE VERKEHRSWACHT; 5. FRITZ PETERSDORFF, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION; 6. DR. HANS-GERD ROHL, MEMBER VERKEHRSWACHT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE; 7. HEINRICH GAREIS, MEMBER VERKEHRSWACHT GENERAL COMMITTEE.

2. THE GROUP'S EXACT SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

APRIL 27 LEAVE DUSSELDORF APRIL 28-30 CHICAGO MAY 2-5 SAN FRANCISCO UNCLASSIFIED

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MAY 6-7 WASHINGTON

MAY 8-11 NEW YORK MAY 11 LEAVE NEW YORK

- 3. THE GROUP WILL MAKE ITS OWN INTERNAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AS WELL AS HOTEL RESERVATIONS. THEY HAVE ASKED IF WE COULD ARRANGE MEETINGS WITH APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS IN THE ABOVE NAMED CITIES WHICH WOULD PERMIT THEM TO LEARN SOMETHING OF THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE RELEVEANT TO THEIR INTERESTS. THESE INCLUDE: A) PARK AND RIDE SYSTEMS: B) PUBLIC RAIL TRANSIT FOR COMMUTERS; C) PROGRAM OF DRIVER INSTRUCTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS INVOLVING SIMULATED VEHICLES; D) RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SUBWAY TRANSIT SYSTEMS. 4. ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP CAN SPEAK SOME ENGLISH AND SEVERAL ARE FLUENT. THUS, THERE WILL BE NO NEED FOR TRANSLA-TION SERVICES. IN ADDITION TO WHATEVER PROGRAM RESPONSIVE TO THE INTERESTS INDICATED ABOVE IS DEVELOPED, THE GROUP WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE OF ANY HOME HOSPITALITY WHICH MIGHT BE OFFERED. GIVEN THE LENGTH OF THEIR STAY IN SAN FRANCISCO, THIS MIGHT BE MOST APPROPRIATELY ARRANGED IN THIS CITY.
- 5. IN OUR CONVERSATION WITH THE GROUP, FREQUENT REFERENCE WAS MADE TO THE CITY OF CHICAGO AND ITS EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE LOCAL TRAFFIC SITUATION. WE WOULD HOPE THAT PARTICULAR ATTENTION COULD BE GIVEN TO THEIR PROGRAM IN THIS CITY.
- 6. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN EARLY INDICATION AS TO WHETHER IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO RESPOND TO THIS REQUEST.HENNEMEYER

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